



June 22, 2022

Dry Gulch Steakhouse potable water supply exceeds the EPA Health Advisory Levels for PFOA/PFOS

ADEQ is investigating groundwater in the area for PFAS and has offered free testing to private well owners in the vicinity

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) sampled the water supply for the Dry Gulch Steakhouse located at 1630 Adams Avenue in Prescott, Arizona, and found the presence of man-made chemicals called perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) at concentrations significantly above the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) federal Health Advisory Levels (HALs) of 0.004 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and 0.02 ppt for PFOS. EPA's HALs provide people, including the most sensitive populations, with a margin of protection against adverse health effects from drinking water with PFOA/PFOS less than those levels for a lifetime.

Though no harm is imminent, sensitive populations among customers and employees of the Dry Gulch Steakhouse should consider seeking an alternative drinking water source, as health studies have shown that drinking water with PFOA/PFOS higher than the HALs over a lifetime may increase the risk of cancer, affect the immune system, lower a woman's chance of getting pregnant and impact children's development. For more information about the EPA PFOA/PFOS health advisory, visit: bit.ly/EPApfoapfasHAL.

Results of two sampling events at the water supply for the restaurant showed the levels of combined PFOA/PFOS were 166 ppt and 203 ppt, orders of magnitude higher than EPA's HALs. ADEQ provided these water sampling results to Dry Gulch Water Company along with the recommendation to notify its customers, provide an alternative source of drinking water to consumers while determining corrective action(s) and pursue water treatment and alternate water supply options. Customers of Dry Gulch Water Company include Dry Gulch Steakhouse customers and employees.

As Dry Gulch Water Company has not notified its customers, ADEQ is providing this notice to inform Dry Gulch Steakhouse customers and employees about the water quality issue and its potential health effects so they can make informed decisions regarding their health.

EPA has indicated plans to begin the process of establishing federal safe drinking water standards, called Maximum Contaminant Levels, for PFOA/PFOS under the Safe Drinking Water Act this fall (2022).

ADEQ is also working to gain a broader understanding of known PFAS contamination in the area around the Steakhouse. ADEQ has offered to sample private wells in the nearby vicinity of the restaurant at no cost and will inform private well owners of the results so that they also can make informed decisions regarding their health.



For more information about PFAS and Arizona, visit: azdeq.gov/pfas-resources.

See related ADEQ 6/15/22 News Release: bit.ly/EPAPFASHAL-AZ.